

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, line 29 through page 3 line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

According to more specific embodiments of the present invention, the first reactant may be a siloxane represented by the general formula $\text{Si}_n\text{O}_{n-1}\text{X}_{2n+2}$, where n is an integer of 2 to 5, and X is a chemical group selected from F, Cl, Br, I, or NCO. In a preferred embodiment, the first reactant is a halogen- or NCO- substituted disiloxane (i.e., $n=2$). Most preferably, the first reactant is a siloxane selected from the group consisting of Si_2OCl_6 , Si_2OBr_6 , and $[\text{or}] \text{Si}_2\text{O}(\text{NCO})_6$ and the second reactant is selected from the group consisting of H_2O , H_2O_2 , ozone (O_3) and $[\text{or}]$ oxygen radical.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 19-25 with the following amended paragraph:

The first reactant is generally represented by the formula $\text{Si}_n\text{O}_{n-1}\text{X}_{2n+2}$, where n is an integer of 2 to 5 and X is a chemical group selected from F, Cl, Br, I, or NCO. By way of examples, the first reactant as used herein may be selected from the group consisting of Si_2OCl_6 , $\text{Si}_3\text{O}_2\text{Cl}_8$, $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_3\text{Cl}_{10}$, Si_2OBr_6 , $\text{Si}_3\text{O}_2\text{Br}_8$, $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_3\text{Br}_{10}$, $\text{Si}_2\text{O}(\text{NCO})_6$ and $[\text{or}] \text{Si}_3\text{O}_2(\text{NCO})_8$, or mixtures thereof. In a preferred embodiment, the first reactant is a halogen- or NCO- substituted disiloxane. Most preferably, the first reactant is selected from the group consisting of Si_2OCl_6 , Si_2OBr_6 and $[\text{or}] \text{Si}_2\text{O}(\text{NCO})_6$.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 27-31 with the following amended paragraph:

The first basic catalyst as used herein is preferably selected from pyridine ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{N}$) and $[\text{or}]$ an amine. More preferably, the first basic catalyst is a tertiary aliphatic amine compound having the general formula NR_3 , where each R represents the same or a different aliphatic group having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms. In a specific preferred embodiment, the first basic catalyst is trimethylamine ($\text{C}_3\text{H}_9\text{N}$).

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Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 24-26 with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the second reactant is selected from the group consisting of H_2O , H_2O_2 , ozone (O_3) and [[or]] oxygen radical. The second basic catalyst may be the same as or different than the first basic catalyst.